

A large, bold, blue stylized 'Z' graphic that spans across the top and left side of the cover, partially overlapping the Kawasaki logo.

Ninja

ZX-9R

Motorcycle Owner's Manual

Whenever you see the symbols shown below, heed their instructions! Always follow safe operating and maintenance practices.

▲WARNING

This warning symbol identifies special instructions or procedures which, if not correctly followed, could result in personal injury, or loss of life.

CAUTION

This caution symbol identifies special instructions or procedures which, if not strictly observed, could result in damage to or destruction of equipment.

NOTE

- *This note symbol indicates points of particular interest for more efficient and convenient operation.*

NOTICE

THIS PRODUCT HAS BEEN MANUFACTURED FOR USE IN A REASONABLE AND PRUDENT MANNER BY A QUALIFIED OPERATOR AND AS A VEHICLE ONLY.

(Australian model only)

TAMPERING WITH NOISE CONTROL SYSTEM

Owners are warned that the law may prohibit:

- (a) The removal or rendering inoperative by any person other than for purposes of maintenance, repair or replacement, of any device or element of design incorporated into any new vehicle for the purpose of noise control prior to its sale or delivery to the ultimate purchaser or while it is in use; and
- (b) the use of the vehicle after such device or element of design has been removed or rendered inoperative by any person.

FOREWORD

We wish to thank you for choosing this fine Kawasaki Motorcycle. Your new motorcycle is the product of Kawasaki's advanced engineering, exhaustive testing, and continuous striving for superior reliability, safety, and performance.

Read this Owner's Manual before riding so you will be thoroughly familiar with the proper operation of your motorcycle's controls, its features, capabilities and limitations. This manual offers many safe riding tips, but its purpose is not to provide instruction in all the techniques and skills required to ride a motorcycle safely. Kawasaki strongly recommends that all operators of this vehicle enroll in a motorcycle rider training program to attain awareness of the mental and physical requirements necessary for safe motorcycle operation.

To ensure a long, trouble-free life for your motorcycle, give it the proper care and maintenance described in this manual. For those who would like more detailed information on their Kawasaki Motorcycle, a Service Manual is available for purchase from any Kawasaki dealer. The Service Manual contains detailed disassembly and maintenance information.

Due to improvements in design and performance during production, in some cases there may be minor discrepancies between the actual vehicle and the illustrations and text in this manual.

**KAWASAKI HEAVY INDUSTRIES, LTD.
CONSUMER PRODUCTS GROUP**

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Cylinder Numbering Method
Firing Order
Carburetors
Ignition System
Ignition Timing
(Electronically advanced)
Spark Plugs
Lubrication System
Engine Oil
Engine Oil Capacity
Coolant Capacity

Left to right, 1-2-3-4
1-2-4-3
Keihin CVKD40 x 4
Battery and coil (transistorized ignition)
10° BTDC @1,100 r/min (rpm) ~
45° BTDC @5,800 r/min (rpm)
NGK CR9EK or ND U27ETR
Forced Lubrication (wet sump)
SE, SF or SG class SAE 10W40, 10W50, 20W40, or 20W50
4.0 L (4.2 US qt)
2.4 L (2.5 US qt)

TRANSMISSION

Transmission Type
Clutch Type
Driving System
Primary Reduction Ratio
Final Reduction Ratio
Overall Drive Ratio
Gear Ratio: 1st
2nd
3rd
4th
5th
6th

6-speed, constant mesh, return shift
Wet, multi disc
Chain drive
1.534 (89/58)
2.750 (44/16)
4.656 (Top gear)
2.857 (40/14)
2.055 (37/18)
1.650 (33/20)
1.391 (32/23)
1.222 (33/27)
1.103 (32/29)

FRAME

Castor		24°
Trail		93 mm (3.66 in.)
Tire Size:	Front	120/70ZR17 Tubeless
	Rear	180/55ZR17 Tubeless
Fuel Tank Capacity		20 L (5.3 US gal)

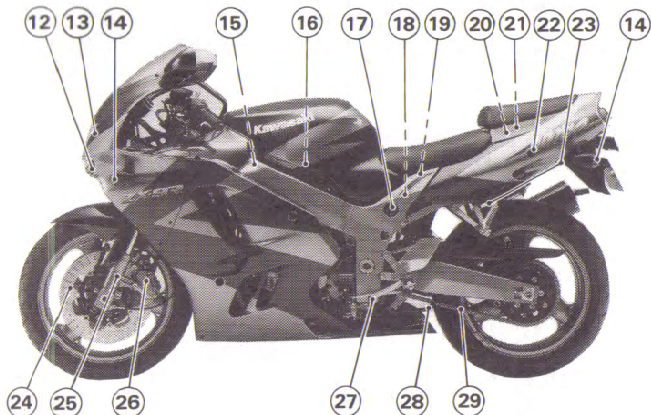
ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

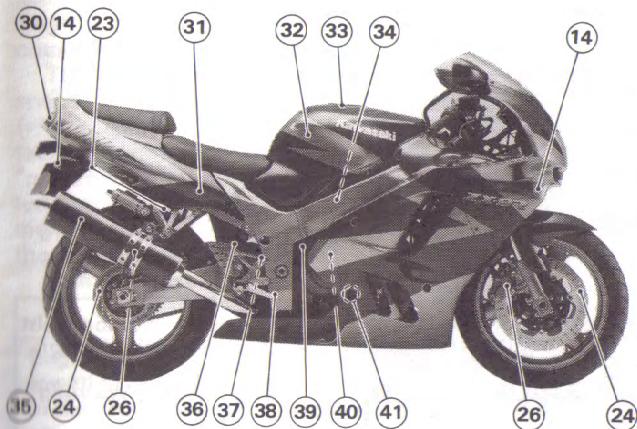
Battery		12 V 10 Ah
Headlight		12 V 55/55 W (U) 12 V 60/55 W
Tail/Brake Light		12 V 5/21 W x 2

- (D): Danish model
- (I) : Italian model
- (N): Norwegian model
- (S): Swedish model
- (U): UK model

Specifications subject to change without notice, and may not apply to every country.

- 12. Air Cleaner Intake
- 13. Headlight
- 14. Turn Signal Light
- 15. Spark Plugs
- 16. Air Cleaner
- 17. Fuel Tap
- 18. Battery
- 19. Junction Box (Fuses)
- 20. Tool Kit/Document
Compartments
- 21. Helmet Hooks
- 22. Seat Lock
- 23. Tying Hooks
- 24. Brake Disc
- 25. Front Fork
- 26. Brake Caliper
- 27. Shift Pedal
- 28. Side Stand
- 29. Drive Chain





- 30. Tail/Brake Light
- 31. Brake Fluid Reservoir
(Rear)
- 32. Fuel Tank
- 33. Fuel Tank Cap
- 34. Carburetors
- 35. Muffler
- 36. Rear Brake Light Switch
- 37. Rear Shock Absorber
- 38. Rear Brake Pedal
- 39. Idle Adjusting Screw
- 40. Coolant Reserve Tank
- 41. Oil Level Gauge

Speedometer and Tachometer

The speedometer shows the speed of the vehicle. In the speedometer face are the odometer and trip meter. The odometer shows the total distance that the vehicle has been ridden. The trip meter shows the distance traveled since it was last reset to zero. The trip meter can be reset to zero by turning the reset knob counterclockwise.

The tachometer shows the engine speed in the revolutions per minute (r/min, rpm). On the right side of the tachometer face is a portion called the "red zone." Engine r/min (rpm) in the red zone is above maximum recommended engine speed and is also above the range for good performance.

CAUTION

Engine r/min (rpm) should not be allowed to enter the red zone; operation in the red zone will overstress the engine and may cause serious engine damage.

Fuel Gauge

The fuel gauge shows the amount of fuel in the fuel tank. When the needle comes near the E (empty) position, refuel at the earliest opportunity.

Coolant Temperature Gauge

This gauge shows the temperature of coolant. Ordinarily, the needle should stay within the white zone. If the needle reaches the "H" position, stop the engine and check the coolant level in the reserve tank after the engine cools down.

CAUTION

Do not let the engine continue running when the gauge needle reaches the "H" position. Prolonged engine operation will result in severe damage from overheating.

Indicator Lights

HIGH BEAM: When the headlight is on high beam, the high beam indicator light is lit.

NEUTRAL: When the transmission is in neutral, the neutral indicator light is lit.

TURN: When the turn signal switch is turned to left or right, the turn signal indicator light flashes on and off.

OIL: The oil pressure warning light goes on whenever the oil pressure is dangerously low or the ignition switch is in the ON position with the engine not running, and goes off when the engine oil pressure is high enough. Refer to the Maintenance and Adjustment chapter for more detailed engine oil information.

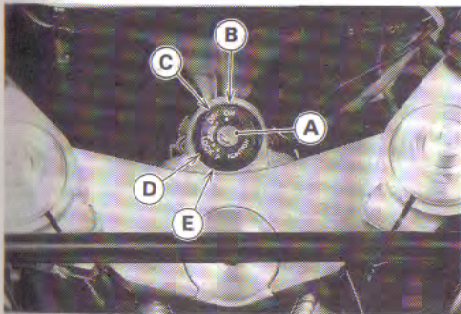
Key

This motorcycle has a combination key, which is used for the ignition switch/steering lock, seat lock, and fuel tank cap.

Blank keys are available at your Kawasaki dealers. Ask your dealer to make any additional spare keys you may need, using your original key as a master.

Ignition Switch/Steering Lock

This is a four-position, key-operated switch. The key can be removed from the switch when it is in the OFF, LOCK, or P(PARK) position.



- A. Ignition Switch/Steering Lock
- B. ON position
- C. OFF position
- D. LOCK position
- E. P (Park) position

OFF	Engine off. All electrical circuits off.
ON	Engine on. All electrical equipment can be used.
LOCK	Steering locked. Engine off. All electrical circuits off.
P (Park)	Steering locked. Engine off. Tail, city (except Australian model), and license plate lights on. All other electrical circuits cut off.

NOTE

- *Australian model only:* The tail and license plate lights are on whenever the ignition switch is in the ON position. The headlight goes on when the starter button is released after starting the engine. To avoid battery discharge, always start the engine immediately after turning the ignition switch to ON.

○If you leave the *PARK* position on for a long time (one hour), the battery may become totally discharged.

To lock the steering:

1. Turn the handlebar fully to the left.
2. With the ignition switch key in the OFF position, push down and release the key.
3. Turn the key to LOCK or P (Park) position.
4. Pull the key out.

Right Handlebar Switches

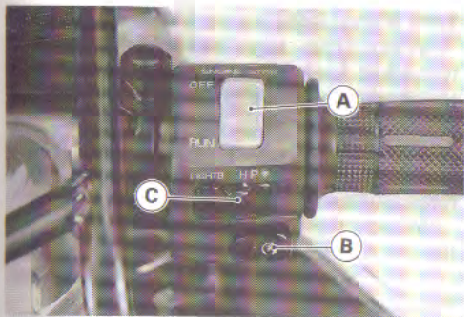
Engine Stop Switch

In addition to the ignition switch, the engine stop switch must be in the RUN position for the motorcycle to operate.

The engine stop switch is for emergency use. If some emergency requires stopping the engine, move the engine stop switch to the OFF position.

NOTE

○Although the engine stop switch stops the engine, it does not turn off all the electrical circuits. Ordinarily, the ignition switch should be used to stop the engine.



- A. Engine Stop Switch
- B. Starter Button
- C. Headlight Switch

Starter Button

The starter button operates the electric starter when pushed with the clutch lever pulled in or the transmission in neutral.

Refer to the Starting the Engine section of the "How to Ride the Motorcycle" chapter for starting instructions.

Headlight Switch (except Australian model)

O	The headlight is off with the switch in the O position.
P	The city, tail, license plate, and meter lights come on if the switch is pushed to the P position with the ignition switch in the ON position.
H	The head, city, tail, license plate, and meter lights come on if the switch is pushed forward to the H position with the ignition switch in the ON position.

Left Handlebar Switches

Dimmer Switch

High or low beam can be selected with the dimmer switch. When the headlight is on high beam (HI), the high beam indicator light is lit.



- A. Dimmer Switch
- B. Turn Signal Switch
- C. Horn Button
- D. Passing Button

Turn Signal Switch

When the turn signal switch is turned to L (left) or R (right), the corresponding turn signals flash on and off.

To stop flashing, push the switch in.

Horn Button

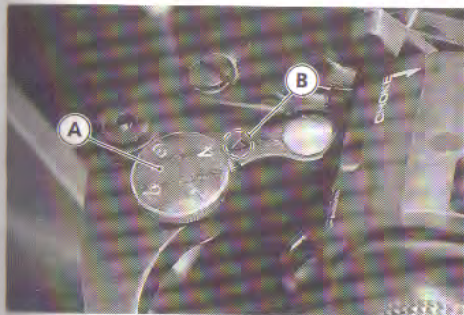
When the horn button is pushed, the horn sounds.

Passing Button

When the passing button is pushed, the headlight high beam (passing beam) comes on to signal the driver of the vehicle ahead that you are about to pass him. The passing light shuts off as soon as the switch is released.

Brake/Clutch Lever Adjusters

There is an adjuster on both the brake and clutch levers. Each adjuster has 4 positions so that the released lever position can be adjusted to suit the operator's hands. Push the lever forward and turn the adjuster to align the number with the triangular mark on the lever holder. The distance from the grip to the released lever is minimum at Number 4 and maximum at Number 1.



A. Adjuster

B. Mark

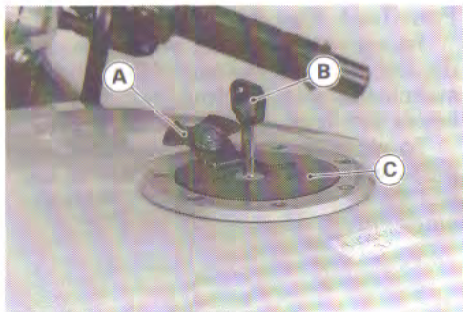
Fuel Tank Cap

To open the fuel tank cap, pull up the key hole cover. Insert the ignition switch key into the lock and turn the key to the right.

To close the cap, push it down into place with the key inserted. The key can be removed by turning it counter-clockwise to the original position.

NOTE

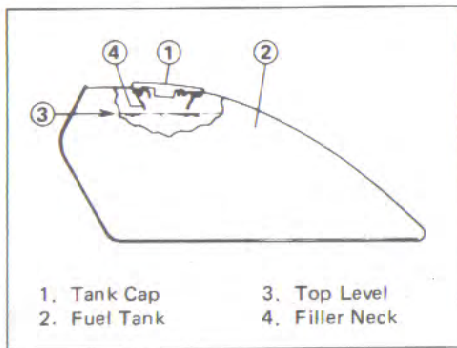
- *The tank cap cannot be closed without the key inserted, and the key cannot be removed unless the cap is locked properly.*
- *Do not push the cap down with the key, or the cap cannot be locked.*



A. Key Hole Cover
B. Ignition Switch Key
C. Fuel Tank Cap

Fuel Tank

Avoid filling the tank in the rain or where heavy dust is blowing so that the fuel does not get contaminated.



- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1. Tank Cap | 3. Top Level |
| 2. Fuel Tank | 4. Filler Neck |

▲WARNING

Gasoline is extremely flammable and can be explosive under certain conditions. Turn the ignition switch OFF. Do not smoke. Make sure the area is well ventilated and free from any source of flame or sparks; this includes any appliance with a pilot light. Never fill the tank so the fuel level rises into the filler neck. If the tank is overfilled, heat may cause the fuel to expand and overflow through the vents in the tank cap. After refueling, make sure the tank cap is closed securely. If gasoline is spilled on the fuel tank, wipe it off immediately.

Fuel Requirement:

Your Kawasaki engine is designed to use unleaded gasoline. However, except for Australian models, if suitable gasoline is not available then PREMIUM, SUPER, or FOUR-STAR gasolines may be used.

CAUTION

Use of leaded gasoline is illegal in some countries, states or territories. Check local regulations before using leaded gasoline.

Octane Rating

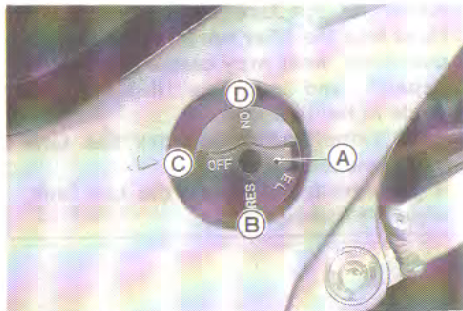
The octane rating of a gasoline is a measure of its resistance to detonation or "knocking." The term commonly used to describe a gasoline's octane rating is the Research Octane Number (RON). Always use a gasoline with an octane rating equal to, or higher than, Research Octane Number (RON) 91.

NOTE

- If "knocking" or "pinging" occurs, use a different brand of gasoline or higher octane rating.

Fuel Tap

The fuel tap has three positions: ON, OFF, and RES (reserve). For normal operation turn the tap to the ON position. If the fuel runs out with the tap in the ON position, the last 4.0 L (1.1 US gal) of fuel can be used by turning the tap to the RES position.



- A. Fuel Tap
- B. RES position
- C. OFF position
- D. ON position

With the fuel tap in the ON or RES position fuel flows to carburetors only when the engine is started or is running, and fuel supply is shut off when the engine is stopped.

Turn the fuel tap to the OFF position when the fuel tank is removed for maintenance and adjustments or the motorcycle is stored for a long time.

NOTE

- *Since riding distance is limited when on RES, refuel at the earliest opportunity.*
- *Make certain that the fuel tap is turned to ON (Not RES) after filling up the fuel tank.*
- *When the carburetor is completely empty, it takes about 30 seconds for the engine to start.*

CAUTION

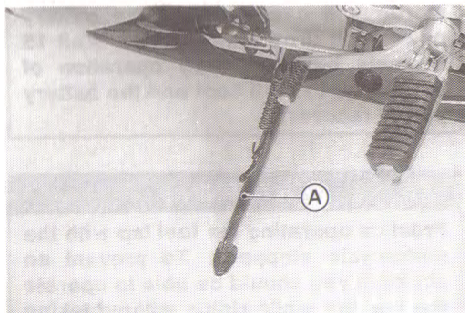
Do not operate the starter continuously for more than 5 seconds or the starter will overheat and the battery power will drop temporarily. Wait 15 seconds between each operation of the starter to let it cool and the battery power recover.

⚠WARNING

Practice operating the fuel tap with the motorcycle stopped. To prevent an accident you should be able to operate the fuel tap while riding without taking your eyes off the road.

Stand

The motorcycle is equipped with a side stand.



A. Side Stand

NOTE

- *When using the side stand, turn the handlebar to the left.*

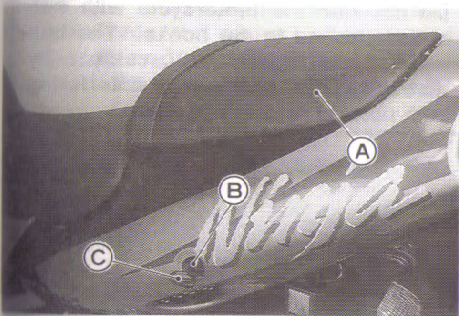
Whenever the side stand is used, make it a practice to kick the stand fully up before sitting on the motorcycle.

NOTE

- *The motorcycle is equipped with a side stand switch. This switch is designed so that the engine stops if the clutch is engaged with the transmission in gear when the side stand has been left down.*

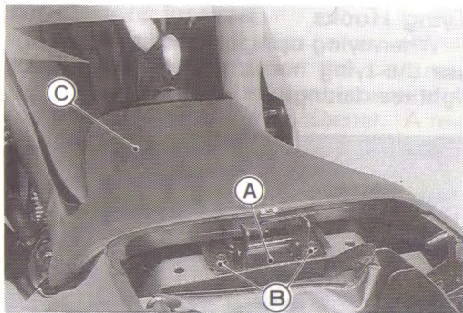
Seat Lock

To remove the seat, first remove the passenger's seat by inserting the ignition switch key into the seat lock, turning the key to the left, pulling up on the rear of the seat, and pulling the seat forward.



A. Passenger's Seat
B. Seat Lock
C. Ignition Switch Key

- Take off the bolts and remove the hook bracket.



A. Hook Bracket C. Rider's Seat
B. Bolts

- Remove the rider's seat by pulling it up on the rear and to the rear.